

To: Blumenfeld, Jared[BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV]
From: Vaught, Laura
Sent: Wed 3/26/2014 10:41:13 PM
Subject: RE: Delta

Thank you!

-----Original Message-----

From: Blumenfeld, Jared
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 6:41 PM
To: Vaught, Laura
Subject: Re: Delta

1. EPA is deeply engaged in the protection and restoration of water quality, wetlands, and fisheries across the Bay Delta ecosystem (including the Central Valley).
2. We are sensitive to the irrigation and water supply needs of farms and municipalities across the State; at the same time, we are obligated to address the ecological crisis surrounding the Bay Delta -- both for the good of the environment and the security of the California economy.
3. Our intensive work on the Bay Delta commenced after the CWA was reauthorized in 1987, we led the San Francisco Estuary Project, and we assisted the State with updating Bay Delta water quality standards through the signing of the Bay Delta Accord of 1994.
4. Today, as called for in EPA's Bay Delta Action Plan, we are committed to once again assist the State with the comprehensive update of the Bay Delta water quality standards, and to support the development of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Vaught, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 12:21:53 PM
To: Blumenfeld, Jared
Subject: Re: Delta

Thanks. So what is her high level one liner on this - that we are engaged and working with various stakeholders? Anything specific she needs to know on timing front?

From: Blumenfeld, Jared
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:19:27 PM
To: Vaught, Laura
Subject: Delta

The drought emergency has pushed aside virtually all the coverage of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP).

Elected officials have revived calls for new and expanded storage reservoirs (at the same locations that have been contemplated since the mid-90s). As several policy experts from the NGO community have concluded, the reservoirs would be among the most expensive, environmentally-damaging ways to address California's perpetual water shortage, whereas scaled-up water recycling and stormwater capture could provide more cost-effective, immediate results and help prevent further subsidence of groundwater aquifers.

Furthermore, the storage reservoirs only work if we get precipitation -- they learned that the hard way in Australia.

Congress puts focus on new reservoirs for California KEVIN FREKING, Associated Press

Drought may quench thirst for votes

ELIZABETH HELD, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER - WASHINGTON BUREAU House Natural Resources Committee hearing Dog and Pony Show [Lloyd Carter blog]

Sen. Barbara Boxer at water symposium: 'Water wars have got to end'
Ian James, Desert Sun

Drying up the delta: 19th century policies underlie California's water crises Jerome Adamstein, Los Angeles Times

California drought: shift from annual row crops to permanent orchards & vineyards have strained water supplies Peter Fimrite, San Francisco Chronicle

In California, Demand for Groundwater Causing Huge Swaths of Land to Sink Julie Schmit, National Geographic

California drought: Central Valley farmland selenium laden runoff, groundwater overdraft, land retirement Carolyn Lochhead, San Francisco Chronicle

First load of Sacramento River salmon begin migration by truck Matt Weiser, Sacramento Bee

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA